

It should be pointed out that during recent years many thousands of dollars have been spent in Downtown Shelby on uncoordinated improvements. The coordination that could be provided by a Downtown Improvement Corporation would be invaluable, even if no additional expenditures (other than normal improvements) were made.

In addition to this downtown corporation there are other organizations and programs that should be used to work in conjunction with the corporation.

PARKING AUTHORITY

As recommended in the Parking and Traffic Study for Downtown Shelby, a parking authority should be formed to undertake the responsibility of carrying out the parking proposals indicated in the Preliminary Plan. Lumberton, North Carolina, and Wilson, North Carolina, have parking authorities that have done a fine job of providing additional parking facilities in the downtown at no cost to the city government.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

There are a number of programs that provide financial assistance that should be considered as each phase of the Downtown Plan is implemented.

OPEN SPACE PROGRAM OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1965

If urban renewal is not used as a method of obtaining the land for the downtown park, fifty percent grants are available to help purchase and develop such areas under the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965.

URBAN BEAUTIFICATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1965

This program makes available Federal grants to cover up to fifty percent of the amount to be spent on a local beautification program. The proposed mall, would be eligible for this type of grant if it is a part of Shelby's official beautification program.

HIGHWAY PROGRAM

Improvement of a portion of the downtown loop system of streets might be accomplished with funds obtained through the North Carolina State Highway Commission. Other street improvements will be the responsibility of the City of Shelby.